Inside: Here Comes A Candle
by Mary Hanson-Roberts
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ANTARCTIC BLAST
JULY 1994

The New Guy Speaks

Pardon me if I'm a bit rusty at this—it's been a while since I had to write an editorial. I'm dredging the recesses of my brain, there's something, it's not quite clear . . . oh, yes, a thesis sentence, that's how you're supposed to start these things off.

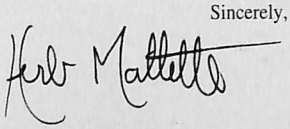
This editorial marks a major change that's been a long time coming, both for me as an individual and for the Antarctic Press as a company. I've been a part of this organization in one way or another for almost ten years now, and an active member of the editorial staff for five. Most of that time has been spent on the peripheries of the company, toiling away from my remote location in Dallas, receiving occasional dispatches from the main office, sending in allotments of stories for Mangazine, but basically isolated. At times my insular existence put great strain on me, and the people here at the AP headquarters started referring to me as "Kurtz . . ."

Seriously, about two months ago, Joe and Ben Dunn and I came to the conclusion that the time was finally right for a big step. The company has needed a single editorial authority for some time now. Our growth over these last two years has been phenomenal, and has outstripped Ben's ability to juggle all his responsibilities as publisher, editor and, of course, creator of **Ninja High School** and other projects. Many of these duties (dealing with distributors, printers, retailers, creators) had fallen on him simply because there was no one else to perform them. So to avoid having Ben add cases of high blood pressure, ulcers and hair loss to the current "health care crisis," it was decided that I should move to San Antonio and take much of the load off his back. So here I am as the new Editor in Chief for the Antarctic Press.

I think Ben has done a great job getting this company where it is today (note: while I'm now Editor in Chief, Ben retains his position as Chief Target of Brown-Nosing), and I hope that I can fill his shoes. I appreciate the confidence he and Joe have placed in me.

Mostly, I appreciate the chance to help bring you, the reader, a broad variety of entertaining comics. We have some big plans in store, and I'm glad to be a part of them.

Sincerely,



Herb Mallette
New High Grand Poobah
Muckity Muck Big Cheese
Dictator For Life and
Editor In Chief

CHECK OUT ANTARCTIC PRESS' other releases

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- ☐ **Mangazine #12 relist** • 32 pages • $2.95

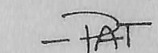
The Not So New Guy Says Stuff

For all of you joining us late, the offices of AP have been humming with fervent activity as the staff labors deep into the night on our new secret project. I still can't tell you much about it, but I can tell you the name: **Mythos**. Our over-zealous editors and their eager artists are fleshing out concepts, writing story bibles, creating all-new cover designs and logos. Mythos is going to be an all new approach to comics by the Antarctic Press, and we're not sparing any expense! Look for the upcoming ads in future AP books!

It's that time of year again! Ninja High School fans aspiring to be published will be interested to know that the 1994 edition of the Ninja High School Yearbook is once again taking your submissions! Anything in the entire NHS universe is fair game! Try to keep your stories under eight pages though, and send photocopies for approval before you send your original art. The deadline for submissions is September 1st, so get cracking! By the way, it's not too early to consider your submissions for Girls of NHS. The deadline for GoNHS is March 1st.

Con Report: Project A-Kon was a blast! On one of our panels, we had a sneak preview of some future titles and the response was overwhelmingly positive! Your feedback and comments were invaluable, especially on our computer coloring. Count on us being there again next year!

The Gold Digger Strike it Rich contest drawing was held at King Arthur's Comics in Texas. Fred Perry, creator of Gold Digger, was on hand to personally draw the winning entry Prizes included an ounce of pure gold, as well as other neat stuff like original art, subscriptions and signed editions of Gold Digger. A big thanks to all the artists who appeared with Fred at the signing including: mighty **Adam Warren** (*of Bubblegum Crisis and Dirty Pair fame*), the delightful **Terry Moore** (*Strangers in Paradise*), the ever-accurate **Ted Nomura** (*Tigers of Terra*), the enigmatic **Joe Wight** (*Twilight X*), the Gruesome Twosome **Bobby Padilla & Joe Weltjens** (*Tomorrow Man and Night Hunter*), **Robert "Slow-Bob" DeJesus** (*Small Bodied Ninja High School*). Unfortunately, I can't print the names of the winners until they've all been notified, so look for a complete list of winners next month!



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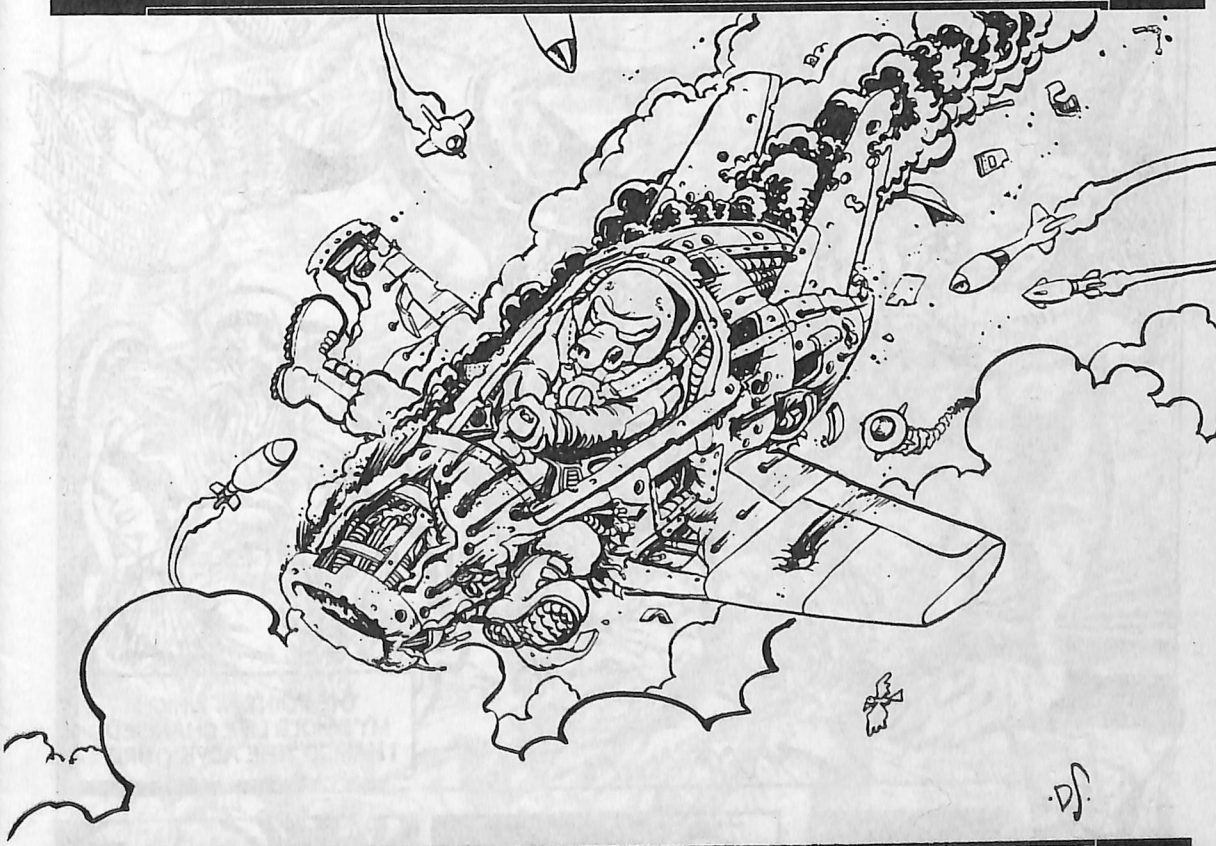

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THE WINDIMERE CONSERVATORY. A SCHOOL FOR WAYWARD GIRLS. KNOWN IN MOST CIRCLES AS HELL FOR ANY GIRL ENTERING IT S GATES
THE POINT AT WHICH MY WHOLE LIFE CHANGED I NAMED "THE ADVENTURE"

BAAA...
BSGRR-ACK
CRAACK
THE ADVENTURE
STORY BY MARY ANN LEWIS
ART BY SCOTT BROOKS

THAT'S WHEN I RAN INTO MURPHY AND HER GANG. THEY SHOWED ME A FEW THINGS ABOUT REAL LIFE
I LIKE YOU, PUSSY. MEET US TONIGHT BY THE LAWNSHACK - AFTER LIGHTS OUT

OF COURSE, BACK THEN I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS TO BE THE HIGH SOCIETY SCAPEGOAT FOR THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM
ALL I KNEW WAS BEING ALONE FOR THE FIRST TIME
I WAS COMPLETELY OUT OF MY CLIMATE

I DON'T KNOW WHAT MADE ME GO THAT NIGHT. MAYBE I WAS SO DESPERATE TO BE ACCEPTED

LOOK WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN
WELL I CAN'T BELIEVE IT
EASY, PUSSY. ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING OF ASKING YOU TO JOIN OUR LITTLE PACK
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER FIGHT, I'M READY
ALL I KNEW WAS THAT I WANTED TO GET OUT OF THAT SCHOOL, AND SOMEHOW THESE SAVAGES WOULD DO THAT FOR ME
WE NEED A FOURTH FOR BACKUP
SINCE YOU ARE DOING SO WELL IN THE CLASS, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO JOIN US IN OUR QUEST
SEE, WE GOT A LITTLE PROBLEM I THINK YOU CAN HELP US WITH. FOR OUR NAV I GATOR SECTION, THE GIRLS AND I ARE LEARNING TO CONTROL ONE OF THESE...

MANEUVERING SPACE VEHICLES IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AFTER DINNER
YOU'LL NEVER GET OFF THE GROUND
I TOLD YA SHE WOULDN'T
CLANG
CLANG
LISTEN, I'VE STRUCK A BARGAIN WITH THE MONITOR TONIGHT. SHE'S GOING TO BE LOOKING THE OTHER WAY
OK, BUT IF WE...
WHEN I LOOK BACK NOW, I CAN'T BELIEVE I WENT ALONG WITH IT
BUT ALL I WANTED WAS TO BELONG
HEY!
WHA.....??
SNAP
SNAP
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE FELL FOR IT
SNAP
CRACK!

YA, SHE'LL FETCH US A GOOD PRICE
SLAVERY? YOU'RE INTO SLAVERY?
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE DRAMATIC, CAT?
OH, NO. NOTHING AS GRAND AS THAT. WE'RE JUST GOING TO HOLD YOU FOR RANSOM
I'M SURE DADDY WILL PAY FOR YOUR LIFE
LET ME HELP YOU PUSSY
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS
WHAT A SUCKER I WAS
IT WASN'T A LIE ABOUT THE MONITOR. SHE'S IN ON THIS
WE FIGURE YOUR DADDY WILL PAY BIG FOR YOU. THEN WE CAN ALL GET OFF THIS PLANET
MY FATHER DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME. MY FAMILY DISOWNED ME WHEN I CAME HERE
NO ONE WILL HELP OR HEAR YOU
HERE, I'LL TAKE THOSE - YOU TAKE THE PRECIOUS CARGO - NICE TRY PUSSY
I HAVE SCANNER CONTACT WITH AN ORBITING SHIP
THAT'S THE ONE WE'RE LOOKING FOR
THEY DIDN'T REALIZE THAT THE ORBITING CRAFT WAS T THE GALAXY VOYAGER THEY WERE EXPECTING

SHAKE 'N BAKE
UNIDENTIFIED SHIP OFF THE STARBOARD BOW
WHAT THE FRAG IS GOING ON!?!
WHO THE HELL
MANEUVERING TO EVADE. WHY AREN'T THE PROJECTORS REACTING?
THE IDIOTS NEVER STOPPED TO CHECK IF THE CIRCLING SHIP WAS THEIR SHIP. SO, WE ENDED UP BEING DRAGGED INTO AN UNKNOWN VEHICLE
WE'RE IN A TRACTOR STREAM
FIRE ON THEM FRAG IT!

OH, MY.. OH, MY OH, MY...
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
I COULDN'T IDENTIFY THE SHIP BEFORE DOCKING. I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE LIKE THAT BEFORE
WHAT DO WE DO, MURPHY?
NO ONE IS TAKING OUR PIECE OF GOLD. LET'S GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT
MURPHY?
BABS, WHEN I GIVE THE WORD, YOU BLOW THE EMERGENY EVACUATION HATCH. READY?
CHEZ, GET BACK INTO THE COMPARTMENT THERE WITH THE PUSS.
NOW!

AND I THOUGHT I WAS IN TROUBLE BEFORE
MURPHY
SHUT UP, PUSSY WHEN IT'S MY TIME
AREN'T YOU JOINING IN?
YOU, FILTHY... FOLLOW ME BABS! AAARRRRGGGHHH!
PA
PA
PA
PA
PA
PA
PA

POP
TAT
SHREDDD
RIP
I COULDN'T BELIEVE THAT THOSE GIRLS MIGHT ACTUALLY WIN. THEY MUST HAVE LED HARD LIVES OR BEEN AT WINDIMERE TOO LONG, BUT THOSE GIRLS SURE PUT UP ONE HADES OF A FIGHT. FOR A WHILE, IT LOOKED AS IF THEY MIGHT WIN AND BREAKOUT, BUT...
KA-POW

CRACK

I PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST...
FRAGGIN YOU ARE
TAP
TAP TAP
CLICK
CLICK
TAP
CLICK
CLICK
TAP
I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL, THE WAY SHE EMERGED. SO CONFIDENT, SO ASSURED OF HER MOVEMENT. WHEN CHEZ HIT HER, IT WASN'T EVEN A SURPRISE TO HER.
THUMP
THOUGH SHE COULDN'T'VE STOPPED THE ASSAULT, THE FACT THAT SOMEONE ASSAULTED HER DIDN'T ASTONISH HER
WHP
CRACK

YOUR FATHER SENT US. HE RECEIVED WORD THROUGH THE WINDIMERE SYSTEM THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN
THANKS, KID
SNAP
DAD?
WHO ARE YOU?
ONCE HE GAVE US OUR INFORMATION, WE DID SOME PRYING ON OUR OWN. MY ENVOYS DISCOVERED SOME INTERGALAXY TRANSMISSION PLOTTING SUCH A CONSPIRACY
CAPTAIN, WE ARE UNDER ATTACK

AGGRESSIVE POSTURE ALPHA KOMTU
L.K.T. ARMED AND READY
REBUT WITH PREVENTIVE MANEUVER CHI SWAG
EXTORT THE EXTRA POWER FROM THE HYPERDRIVE
SHIELDS AT 25%
SHE TOOK CHARGE WITH EASE. SHE MOVED INTO THE CONTROL CHAIR WITH ELEGANCE AND PRIVILEGE
I WATCHED AS SHE ASSAULTED THE MARAUDING CRAFT. SHE DID IT WITH SUCH POWER; AT THAT MOMENT, ALL I WANTED WAS TO BE HER

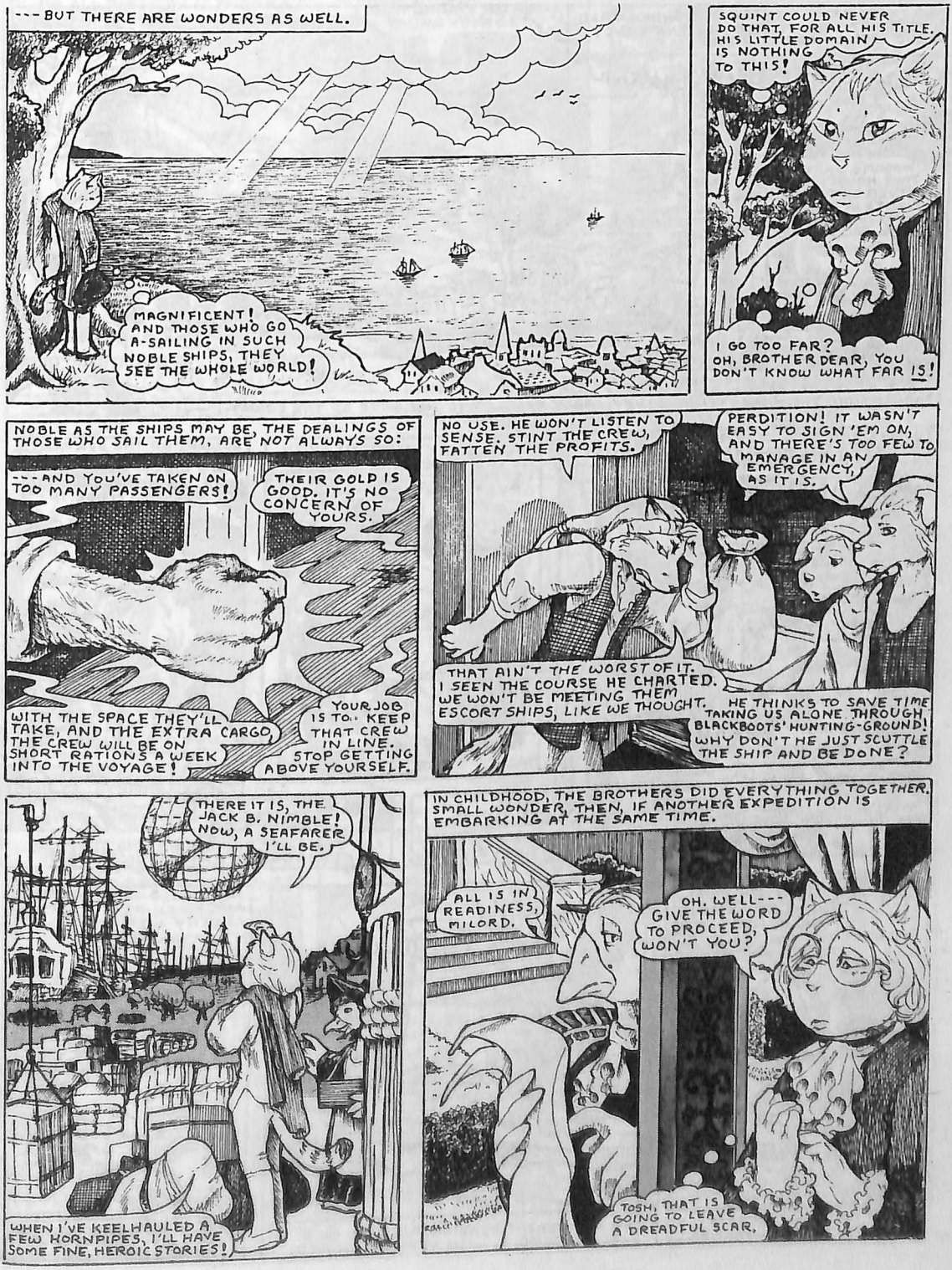
WHO THE HADES?
IT'S A WINDIMERE SHIP. MURPHY HAD AN AGREEMENT WITH SOME OF THE GUARDS
I COULDN'T BELIEVE I TRULY SPOKE TO HER. BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE HER FALL
PUT THE FELONS IN THEIR SHIP AND KNOCK IT LOOSE
AND PREPARE FOR HYPERSPACE
AWAY
CAPTIVES
PRISONERS ARE BOARDED

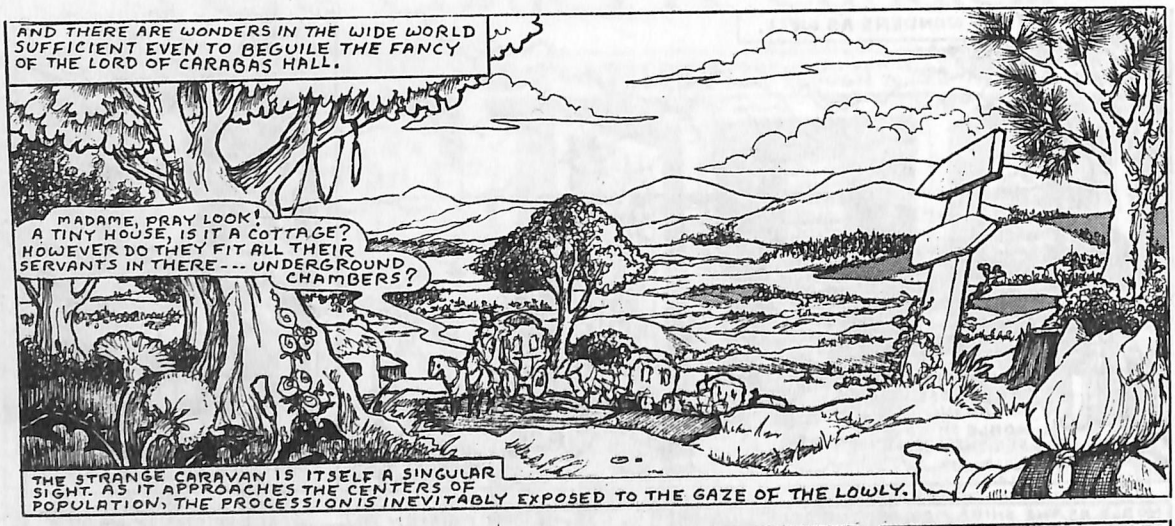
SHE RAN. INSTEAD OF BREAKING SOME BELIEF IN AUTHORITY, SHE GAVE THEM WHAT THEY WANTED AND LEFT.
SHE WAS SO NOBLE AND TRUE; SHE WAS SOMEONE I COULD BELIEVE IN AND TRUST
THANKS AGAIN, KID. I DIDN'T WANT TO GET INTO ANY TROUBLE WITH THE AUTHORITIES
AREN'T YOU AN OFFICIATOR?
I GUESS HE STILL LOVES YOU. HE'S HAVING US TAKE YOU TO A DISTANT RELATIVE'S HOME WHERE YOU CAN STAY
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE DID THAT. MY FAMILY DISOWNED ME
NO. I'M A LITTLE OUTSIDE THE LAW. I'M A BOUNTY HUNTER. YOUR FATHER HIRED ME.

NICE.
IT WAS MY DAUGHTER'S
I...., I... GUESS
I SHOULD THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE
ALL IN THE LINE OF DUTY
I NEVER MADE IT TO MY DISTANT RELATIVES. I TRAVELLED WITH NABALI FOR MANY YEARS, LEARNING MANY THING. I NEVER SAW MY FAMILY AGAIN.
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
NABALI
BUT IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR MURPHY AND HER DUPLICITY, I WOULD'VE NEVER MET NABALI; AND I WOULDN'T BE WHO I AM TODAY

Here Comes A Candle...

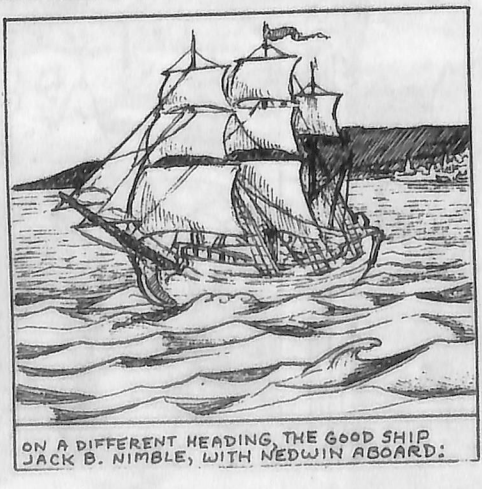
ANY REGRET NEDWIN FEELS IS QUICKLY SWALLOWED UP IN ANTICIPATION.
IT SHOULD BE A SPLENDID ADVENTURE!
HE KNOWS THAT TRANSPORTATION FOR HIS GOODS WILL BE SEEN TO, BY THOSE WHO ARE GLAD ENOUGH TO SEE THE BACK OF HIM.
STILL, TO LEAVE WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A BODY-SERVANT IN ATTENDANCE--- IT IS QUITE IMPROPER!
SINFUL SIMON'S
A YOUNG ONE ON HIS OWN FOR THE FIRST TIME CAN QUICKLY DISCOVER THAT THE WORLD IS FULL OF TEMPTATIONS---
Ye Gambolling Denne
--AND DANGERS---


---BUT THERE ARE WONDERS AS WELL.
MAGNIFICENT! AND THOSE WHO GO A-SAILING IN SUCH NOBLE SHIPS, THEY SEE THE WHOLE WORLD!
SQUINT COULD NEVER DO THAT, FOR ALL HIS TITLE, HIS LITTLE DOMAIN IS NOTHING TO THIS!
I GO TOO FAR? OH, BROTHER DEAR, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT FAR IS!
NOBLE AS THE SHIPS MAY BE, THE DEALINGS OF THOSE WHO SAIL THEM, ARE NOT ALWAYS SO:
---AND YOU'VE TAKEN ON TOO MANY PASSENGERS!
THEIR GOLD IS GOOD. IT'S NO CONCERN OF YOURS.
WITH THE SPACE THEY'LL TAKE, AND THE EXTRA CARGO, THE CREW WILL BE ON SHORT RATIONS A WEEK INTO THE VOYAGE!
YOUR JOB IS TO KEEP THAT CREW IN LINE. STOP GETTING ABOVE YOURSELF.
NO USE. HE WON'T LISTEN TO SENSE. STINT THE CREW, FATTEN THE PROFITS.
PERDITION! IT WASN'T EASY TO SIGN 'EM ON, AND THERE'S TOO FEW TO MANAGE IN AN EMERGENCY, AS IT IS.
THAT AIN'T THE WORST OF IT. I SEEN THE COURSE HE CHARTED. WE WON'T BE MEETING THEM ESCORT SHIPS, LIKE WE THOUGHT.
HE THINKS TO SAVE TIME TAKING US ALONE THROUGH BLACKBOOTS' HUNTING-GROUND! WHY DON'T HE JUST SCUTTLE THE SHIP AND BE DONE?
THERE IT IS, THE JACK B. NIMBLE! NOW, A SEAFARER I'LL BE.
WHEN I'VE KEELHAULED A FEW HORNPIPES, I'LL HAVE SOME FINE, HEROIC STORIES!
IN CHILDHOOD, THE BROTHERS DID EVERYTHING TOGETHER. SMALL WONDER, THEN, IF ANOTHER EXPEDITION IS EMBARKING AT THE SAME TIME.
ALL IS IN READINESS, MILORD.
OH, WELL--- GIVE THE WORD TO PROCEED, WON'T YOU?
TOSH, THAT IS GOING TO LEAVE A DREADFUL SCAR.


AND THERE ARE WONDERS IN THE WIDE WORLD SUFFICIENT EVEN TO BEGUILE THE FANCY OF THE LORD OF CARABAS HALL.
MADAME, PRAY LOOK! A TINY HOUSE, IS IT A COTTAGE? HOWEVER DO THEY FIT ALL THEIR SERVANTS IN THERE--- UNDERGROUND CHAMBERS?
THE STRANGE CARAVAN IS ITSELF A SINGULAR SIGHT. AS IT APPROACHES THE CENTERS OF POPULATION, THE PROCESSION IS INEVITABLY EXPOSED TO THE GAZE OF THE LOWLY.

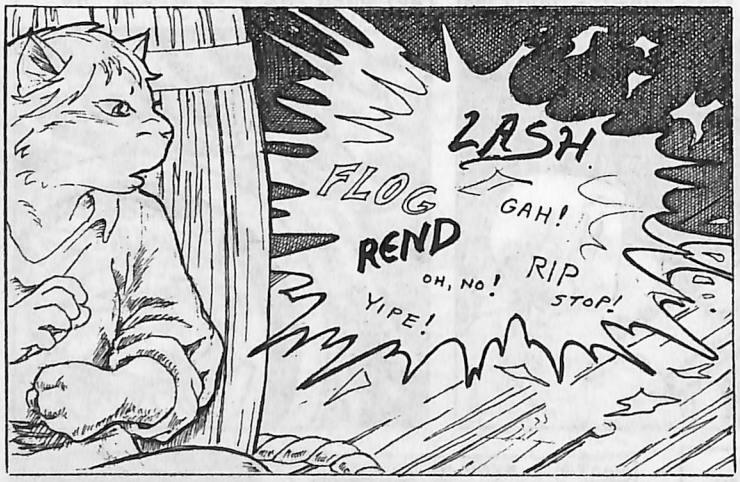
THOMAS HAS ENCOUNTERED BUT FEW COMMONERS, SAVING THOSE WHO EXIST TO WAIT UPON MY LORD'S PLEASURE---
LITTLE THIEVES! OFF WITH YOU!
---AND HE WON'T SEE MUCH OF THEM ON THIS OCCASION, EITHER,
THOSE ARE CHILDREN! WHEN MY LADY AND I ARE WEDDED, I EXPECT WE SHALL HAVE A GREAT MANY.
BUT WHY DO THE SERVANTS DRIVE THE CHILDREN AWAY? CAN'T WE---
DO CLOSE THE CURTAINS.
FOR THE LADY BEULAH HAS NO WISH TO BE REMINDED OF PRIVATIONS PAST.

WHY ANGER HER NEEDLESSLY? I CAN LOOK TO MY HEART'S CONTENT, ON MY RETURNING, AND THE VIEW IN HERE IS SO LOVELY!
DEAREST FELICE! IF I KEEP MY GLOVES ON, PERHAPS YOU'LL NOT BE REPELLED BY THE DISFIGUREMENT?


ON A DIFFERENT HEADING, THE GOOD SHIP JACK B. NIMBLE, WITH NEDWIN ABOARD:

THE WORLD IS WIDE INDEED, AND MUCH OF IT IS VERY WET!
AND YOU TRAVEL THE SEAS AS WELL?
OF COURSE! YOU HEARD OF SHIPPING MAGGOTS?

HERE'S ANOTHER ONE! OUGHT TO FLING ALL THESE PASSENGERS OVER THE SIDE!
EASY, FAIRWIND, 'TAIN'T THE WHELP'S FAULT. WHAT BRINGS YOU ABOARD, YOUNG VOYAGER?
THE CALL OF THE SEA, NOTHING LESS, I BELIEVE THEY CALL IT THE--- UM-- CRADLE OF THE DEEP?
BUT WHEN THE WIND BLOWS, THE CRADLE WILL ROCK---
HAW! CALL O' THE SEA, TRUE ENOUGH! NOW IT'S CALLING THE LANDLUBBER'S BREAKFAST!
SEND HIM BELOW WHEN HE'S DONE, BEFORE HE TEMPTS ME TOO FAR.
WHAT DID I EVER DO TO HIM?
FAIRWIND? NA, HE HUFFS AND HE PUFFS, BUT HE AIN'T A BAD SORT.
I'LL NOT STAY DOWN IN THE DAMP ON YOUR SAY-SO, MY GRUMPY FRIEND—
PUT OFF BY FAIRWIND'S GRUFF MANNER, NEDWIN DETERMINES TO AVOID HIM. HOWEVER---
HE WENT TOO FAR THIS TIME! FIND HIM! HE'S GOT THIS COMING!
IF YOU MEAN ME, I'D PREFER TO LEARN MORE CONCERNING THE CIRCUMSTANCES BEFORE I DELIVER MYSELF UP!
HERE'S THE ONE YOU WANTED.
WE HAD TROUBLE WITH YOU BEFORE AIN'T WE?
THAT WILL STOP! STRIP THE SHIRT OFF HIM.


LASH
FLOG
GAH!
REND
OH, NO!
RIP
STOP!
YIPE!

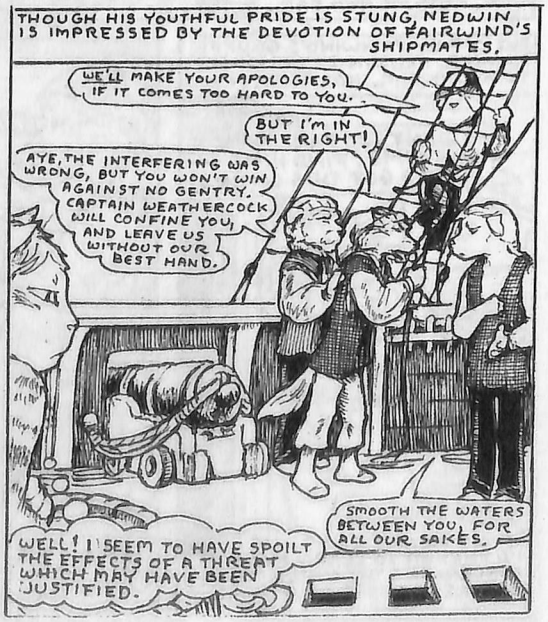
AND WHAT I DID TO THAT SHIRT, I'LL DO TO YOUR HIDE NEXT TIME!
Y-YESSIR-- SNIVEL

MY SHIRT! THE ONLY ONE I HAD!

TAKE THIS ONE. I HAVE OTHERS.

THOUGHT I ORDERED YOU BELOW, LANDLUBBER!
I OUGHT TO--

BELAY, FAIRWIND! THE LAD'S QUALITY. HE'S GOT PRIVILEGES ABOARD.
DAD'S RIGHT. AIN'T YOU DEEP ENOUGH INTO THE CAPTAIN'S BAD GRACES?
YOU'LL HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO HIM.
YOU KNOW I'M LOOKING TO THE GOOD OF THE SHIP! LANDLUBBERS SCAMPERING WILLYNILLY ABOVEDECKS, IT HAS TO BRING ON ACCIDENTS! LET 'EM TAKE THEIR STROLLS WHEN WE CAN KEEP WATCH ON 'EM! AND INTERFERING WITH DISCIPLINE--


THOUGH HIS YOUTHFUL PRIDE IS STUNG, NEDWIN IS IMPRESSED BY THE DEVOTION OF FAIRWIND'S SHIPMATES.
WE'LL MAKE YOUR APOLOGIES, IF IT COMES TOO HARD TO YOU.
BUT I'M IN THE RIGHT!
AYE, THE INTERFERING WAS WRONG, BUT YOU WON'T WIN AGAINST NO GENTRY. CAPTAIN WEATHERCOCK WILL CONFINE YOU, AND LEAVE US WITHOUT OUR BEST HAND.
SMOOTH THE WATERS BETWEEN YOU, FOR ALL OUR SAKES.
WELL! I SEEM TO HAVE SPOILT THE EFFECTS OF A THREAT WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED.

PERHAPS IT IS FOR ME TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU, SIR.
RIGHT OR WRONG, I NEVER HEARD OF NO QUALITY APOLOGIZING TO MY LIKE--
UH--I MEAN--I AIN'T MUCH FOR MANNERS, BUT--THANKS.
OH, WELL--- YOU MAY NOT HAVE NOTICED, BUT I DON'T KNOW A GREAT DEAL ABOUT SHIPS, OR THE WAYS OF SEAFARING FOLK.
I'LL EVEN GO BACK DOWNSTAIRS, DESPITE THE DAMP AND THE SMELLY OLD BULGE---
THAT'S BILGE!
NO, I'M QUITE IN EARNEST.
WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED, HAD I NOT BEEN 'QUALITY'?
OH, THEY'D HAVE CLAPPED YOU IN IRONS FOR THE JOURNEY, SURE.
AS IT WAS, YOU COULD'VE MADE THINGS PRETTY HOT FOR OLD FAIRWIND. STILL, WHAT YOU DID MAY HAVE BEEN WISE.
WE'RE APPROACHING THE CAPE OF INVISIBILITY. D'YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?
SAIL HO!
WHERE AWAY?
THESE ARE PIRATE WATERS. A BAD PLACE TO START ANY MUTINIES.
I WOULDN'T--DID YOU SAY, PIRATES?
I DID. YOU EVER HEAR OF BLACKBOOTS?
CAN YOU SEE THEIR COLORS?
NOT YET—

THE STRANGE SHIP IS FASTER THAN THE JACK B. NIMBLE. PRESENTLY--
RETURN THEIR FIRE, WHILE I--
PIRATES! I KNEW IT-- WE'RE DEAD!
THEY'RE STILL CLOSING! PERDITION'S TEETH! IT'S THE BOBBY SHAFTOE!
THAT'S BLACKBOOTS' SHIP!
WHAM
WE CAN'T STAY DOWN HERE-- DO YOU HAVE A FIREARM?
I DON'T HEAR YOU, I'M A CORPSE. YOU'RE ONE, TOO, YOU MIGHT AS WELL LIE DOWN--
KSSH!
KROOM
THE PIRATES ARE ABOUT TO BOARD US! WHERE'S THE CAPTAIN?

WHERE'S THE CAPTAIN?
AYE, FLY, CAPTAIN WEATHERCOCK, 'EE CHICKEN OF THE SEA!
ABANDONED BY THE COWARDLY CAPTAIN, THE JACK B. NIMBLE WILL BE EASY PREY FOR BLACKBOOTS' CREW.

HOWEVER WELL-INTENTIONED, NEDWIN'S HEADLONG RUSH ONTO THE DECK PROVES TO BE ONE IMPROVIDENT ACT TOO MANY.
AND NOW-- WHO WISHES TO BE FIRST?
HE LACKS THE EXPERIENCE TO REALIZE WHAT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS--
-- THAT PIRATES DON'T OBSERVE THE RULES OF FAIR PLAY.
BEHIND YOU! LOOK--
---OUT!
THE PIRATES' VICTORY IN THE BRIEF SEA-BATTLE IS HARDLY SUPRISING AND SURPRISES WOULD BE WASTED ON NEDWIN NOW, IN ANY CASE.
HE'S NOT LIKELY TO OBJECT IF WE TAKE OUR LEAVE AND REVISIT SOME OTHER ACQUAINTANCES.
HEY, NICE! MINE NOW, AYE?
BACK ON DRY LAND, THE LONG-NEGLECTED MASTER BIRCH IS APPROACHING A CRISIS OF QUITE ANOTHER SORT.
AH, BIRCH. I AM EXPECTING A CUSTOMER, BUT DO COME IN, AND --

DEER JOHN

LETTERS TO FURRLOUGH
7272 WURZBACH SUITE 204
SAN ANTONIO, TX, 78240

Dear AP,

I am writing to express my deep appreciation to your comics. In the last two years Antarctic Press has become my favorite comic book publisher - even more than Marvel or DC - and I'm *not* saying this to help my own comic, which I submitted several weeks ago. This is a very heartfelt appreciation.

My favorite is **Furrlough**. In the last issue, the story "Target Practice" tugged at my heartstrings, especially since it was based on a true story in Sarajevo.

I also like **Furrlough** as a whole. The feeling is the same for the other collections - **Genus**, **Velvet Touch**, and **Wild Life**. But I like the rest of your titles. On **Katmandu**, I am anxiously awaiting for issue #3. Thanks for the good work. P.S. Mr. Dunn, I hope Leanna (in **NHS**) returns.

Sincerely,
Paul J. Laferriere
Christiansburg, VA

To Ye Gentle Folk: Greeting.

Though I am unaccustomed to extending Criticism Aesthetic or literary, Conscience enjoins Me to give hearty Praise and roundly acknowledge the well-deserved Merits of Madame Mary Hanson-Roberts, with reference to her Contribution to the honorable Gazette, **Furrlough**, Issue the 17th. The Lady's edifying History of the Lineage of Puss-in-Boots is an elegant Feast for Eye and Imagination. Especially and carefully design'd are the diverse Ironies, Caprices, and Sordities, revealing a most insightful Observation of our doleful Age.

One such Example is the Variable Portrait of the late and beauteous Lisette, as fair a Portrayal of Life's Tragedie as can be render'd in Ink, and capable of provoking a Tear from the most Stone-Hearted. Can One not be rent with Sympathy for this piteous and (by Fate) grievously-used Feline? T'would wrench a Sigh from the marble Breast of an antique Sphynx of Araby. Shall We not light a Candle?

Another item. The Manner in which the Figures are Styled is delightfully reminiscent of the renowned (but half-forgotten) Work of Ruth Carroll, Grace Drayton, Rose O'Neil, and perhaps Another, centuries gone. Yet (if I may make so bold) the Quality of the gracious Lady's Offering is of such high Standard, We must take Time to ponder the Possibility of the Mystic Transmigration os Soules. (At this Juncture, We are given to meditative Pause.)

In any Wise, the Work of Madame Hanson-Roberts is plainly a Labour of Love, Intelligence, and nigh-on Angelic Skill ... Therefore, We are oblig'd to anticipate with Patient Longing whatever bright Wonders the Lady may create in the Future. May They be as swift in their Manifestations as the Flight of Winged Pegasus!

Your Humble Servant,
Stephan Peregrine
Pleasant Valley, NJ

Dear Editors,

Excellent anthropomorphic story and art in "Here Comes a Candle" by Mary Hanson-Roberts. Her sinuously delicate pencil work is matched by her charmingly erudite storyline. I've asked my local comic shop to carry your title and will urge other comic fans to buy it there.

I've met the artist at various cons in the central Florida area. She's as charming as her art and storytelling. After seeing her future plotline, I can tell your action-adventure oriented readers that revolution impends in the near future for her "Age of Anthropomorphic Enlightenment". The Carabas twins will live in interesting times.

Furrlough is right in my area of interest. I'm a long-time fan of Carl Barks' duck adventures and appreciate high adventure by anthro-animal protagonists. Your comic has that in spades! Captain Toad of the R.F.C. is a wild strip. After the war, he will surely show up at Lemans with a Bentley!

Keep it coming, please, more Mary Hanson-Roberts!

Your new fan,
Gary M. Gordon
DeLeon Springs, FL

Mr. Howell,

I wanted to write and tell you how much I enjoy the **Furrlough** comic book among the others published by AP.

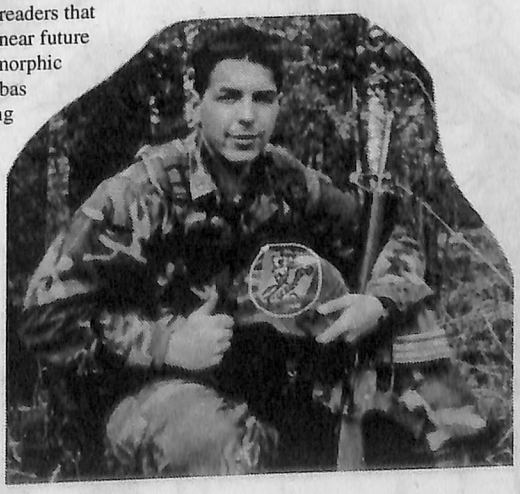
I'm a soldier in the 1-501st Airborne Battalion stationed in Alaska and I thought you'd like to see one of America's "Best" taking a time-out to enjoy a favorite "pin-up" of mine which I carry everywhere in my k-pot (Kevlar helmet).

A big Army "Huah!" to you and all the staff/artists, etc. at **Furrlough** and AP. I can't wait till I get *my* next **Furrlough**!

Yours Truly,
Alex "Thumper" Mickschl
Fort Richardson, AK

Thanks for the photo, Alex! (Hope you don't mind if we run it this ish.) And thanks to all of you who wrote in. Let's keep those comments coming! We really need your input to make this comic great! Send your letters to:

Deer John
c/o Antarctic Press
7272 Wurzbach #204
San Antonio, TX 78240



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